

Jack Binnacle's  
LIGHT; OR  
A Cruise to the Cannibal Islands

A Tale of Adventure in the South Pacific.

By F. CLINTON BARRINGTON.  
Author of "The Lady of the Lake," "The Young Fisherman," "The Boatman," "The Boatman," "The Boatman," etc.

CHAPTER II.  
AN ARCADE OF THE SEA!

It was twilight on the sea. The setting sun had flooded the heavens with such golden light, that the water, in the warmth of its faraway blue, seemed to shimmer and glow.

That sea itself was strangely beautiful and calm. And on that sea, at that calm hour, advanced the stately ship, with swelling sails and bounding spars, before a favorable breeze, with a rich freight, large treasure land, and an unusual number of passengers.

She was homeward bound four days out from Sydney for Liverpool, and how best the gallant vessel should of her! how high their hopes, and how their keen imaginations of that far land and those sweet homes beyond the heaving flood! How bright appeared the future to every one of those whose thoughts went over the trackless water to friends far years and years away!

Thus onwards swept the stately ship—thus on, to the westward, at that sweet hour, there walked a man of mystery, as the demon of that hour, a man not aged in years, but old in crime—dark featured, strange and silent; a thin and restless figure, dressed in black, with a combination of the misanthropic and infernal in his appearance.

He had just come out of the cabin, with a strange gleam of triumph in his eyes, and was walking slowly and abstractedly forward, and saying to himself:

"Thus far I have succeeded—thus far all is well. Oh, England—oh, Dowling! Ye shall yet know your foe!"

He paused amidships, by the weather bulwarks, and stood gazing far and near over the waters on every hand, as if searching for an expected sail, while many a curious glance was bent upon him by the sailors of the watch on deck, and by the passengers strolling here and there. All deemed him strange—the more inexplicable, that nothing was known concerning him beyond the fact that he had taken passage for Liverpool, under the name of "Nat Gunno, naturalist."

Not one of all those souls aboard of the *Medusa* knew from whence that man of mystery came, nor said that he had been making a collection of the birds and beasts of Australia for the British Museum, a report, perhaps, from the fact that he had a cage, a wooden box about four feet square, directed to the Earl of—(the name purposely left blank), and containing, it was said, some curious animal of some kind or other.

Stammering forward, the man drew himself cautiously on that cage, and drew his cloak up closely around his chin and mouth, watching all things and movements around him with a restless eye. It was a curious cage, that for a wild animal—a wooden box, bored full of small holes—and a realization of the fact seemed to suddenly strike the self-styled naturalist, as his glances rested upon its rough sides, for a sarcastic smile lighted up his features.

"'Tis a treasure aboard of this vessel," he muttered, with a rueful gleam in his eyes, "and a number of servants. A cook, two waiters, and three sailors—all escaped convicts from Botany Bay! Things in human shape that I have bought for gold to execute my will, each and every one of them formerly transported for life, and all men of the most desperate and villainous description! Ha! ha! and they are already at work for me—at work!"

The speaker suddenly started, his look at the box. A human figure, white and delicate enough to be a woman's, had been thrust through one of the holes therein!

Quickly drawing a knife from his pocket, the man prepared to amputate that portion of the member presented to his view, but it was drawn back just in time to prevent him. Smiling his clenched hand furiously against the lid of the box, as he replaced his knife, he gave utterance to a word or two of fierce denunciation, and then listened.

All was still, and nothing more of the finger was seen. Arising, the naturalist commenced walking to and fro. An hour he paced the vessel's deck, while the passengers and crew were at supper, and nothing did he seem to see but that coming up in the northern bow, as the precursor of a tempest.

But another hour thus passed had brought him stranger sights. Then walking, he had seen the sailors of the watch on deck sink down at their several stations in a drowsy sleep. Then walking, he had seen the last man visible on deck, serve him at the helm, yield to the powers of that singular alchemist, and yet had not uttered a word of surprise at the unusual occurrence, nor lent a single step in that quiet and noiseless marching to and fro.

Descending into the fore-cabin, he had quietly surveyed the figures ranged around it in various postures of drowsiness and fatigue, each in a sleep like death.

"Men!" he cried.

Two sailors had thrust their heads forth from their berths at one side of the apartment.

"Ah! there you are—Remain!"

The sailors had drawn back out of sight, lying still.

And then that sinister being had uttered in a cold and sepulchral voice, the words:

"It is done!"

There lay the passengers, male and female, old and young, on each side of the well fitted table, all in the profound silence of death, but having not the semblance. On each and every cheek were seen the hues of health and life, and from every throat came the steady respirations of the calmest sleep.

Strange that sleep! as strange the solitary figure regarding that scene of slumber:

It was the captain of that stately vessel, one leg still resting upon the chair from which he had fallen backwards as powerless as if life had already left his stately frame.

There were the forms of several young and pretty women, and among them the form of one younger and lovelier than the rest, a very angel of beauty and grace, lying prostrate on the cabin floor, her luxuriant tresses disheveled, and the matchless symmetry of her bust and shoulders all too much exposed to that man's inflamed and glazing eyes.

Alas! it was Mary Lizzie, lying where she had been precipitated from the arms of Jack. A wild cry of triumph, such as a wolf might utter when rending his prey, escaped the lips of that man of horror, as his glances roved all too admiringly over the form of that helpless and hapless maiden.

"Ah! he said, 'It's you, Mary Lizzie. I rather expected you here.'"

He then passed on.

To be Continued.

FOR SALE AND TO LET.

TO LET—LAND AND BUILDINGS FOR SALE—A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

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MISCELLANEOUS.  
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.  
CHARLES H. BROTHERS.  
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CHARLES H. BROTHERS.

THE UNDERGROUND HAS JUST ARRIVED.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

NEWLY IMPORTED FROM GERMANY.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

BOLDIERS OF NEW YORK MILITIA.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

BOUNTY LANDS, OR SOLDIERS.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

GOLD, SILVER AND STEEL.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

SHIPPING.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL, LONDON AND PARIS.  
A large lot of land, with a small building, situated in the city of New York, near the city hall, and within a few minutes' walk of the city hall.

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WANTED.  
WANTED—2 GOOD BUTTON HOLE MACHINES.  
WANTED—2 GOOD BUTTON HOLE MACHINES.

WANTED—A BOY FROM 12 TO 14 YEARS.  
WANTED—A BOY FROM 12 TO 14 YEARS.

WANTED—FOR HER BOARD AND LODGING.  
WANTED—FOR HER BOARD AND LODGING.

WHO WANTS TO MAKE MONEY?—200.  
WHO WANTS TO MAKE MONEY?—200.

WANTED—GOOD OPERATORS ON THE NEW YORK CITY TRAMWAY.  
WANTED—GOOD OPERATORS ON THE NEW YORK CITY TRAMWAY.

WANTED—A YOUNG LADY TO TEND IN A RESTAURANT AND CONFECTIONERY SALOON.  
WANTED—A YOUNG LADY TO TEND IN A RESTAURANT AND CONFECTIONERY SALOON.

WANTED—IMMEDIATELY—AN OPERATOR ON THE NEW YORK CITY TRAMWAY.  
WANTED—IMMEDIATELY—AN OPERATOR ON THE NEW YORK CITY TRAMWAY.

WANTED—SERVANTS—MANY GOOD.  
WANTED—SERVANTS—MANY GOOD.

WANTED—TO LET—SINGER'S OR WHEELER & WILSON'S IMPROVED SEWING MACHINES.  
WANTED—TO LET—SINGER'S OR WHEELER & WILSON'S IMPROVED SEWING MACHINES.

WANTED—\$200 TO \$300 WORTH OF FURNITURE.  
WANTED—\$200 TO \$300 WORTH OF FURNITURE.

WANTED—LADIES TO LEARN TO OPERATE ON SINGER'S OR WHEELER & WILSON'S IMPROVED SEWING MACHINES.  
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CLOTHING.  
IMPORTERS OF FASHIONS—MADAME.  
IMPORTERS OF FASHIONS—MADAME.

FURS—FURS—WANTED ALL.  
FURS—FURS—WANTED ALL.

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FURS—FURS—WANTED ALL.

GENERAL BUSINESS.  
A NEVER FAILING ELASTIC CEMENT.  
A NEVER FAILING ELASTIC CEMENT.

ACCOUNT BOOKS, DIARIES FOR 1888.  
ACCOUNT BOOKS, DIARIES FOR 1888.

ALL PERSONS HAVING BOOKS OF ANY KIND.  
ALL PERSONS HAVING BOOKS OF ANY KIND.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND UPWARDS.  
BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND UPWARDS.

BANK FOR SAVINGS.  
BANK FOR SAVINGS.

CASH PAID FOR OLD NEWSPAPERS.  
CASH PAID FOR OLD NEWSPAPERS.

DISEASED EYES CURED BY MEDICAL TREATMENT.  
DISEASED EYES CURED BY MEDICAL TREATMENT.

FROZEN GAS METERS—WATER PIPES.  
FROZEN GAS METERS—WATER PIPES.

FRANKLIN COAL OIL WORKS—1.  
FRANKLIN COAL OIL WORKS—1.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT.  
GREAT IMPROVEMENT.

HOOP SKIRT MANUFACTURERS CAN.  
HOOP SKIRT MANUFACTURERS CAN.

LOVELY OVER THE MOUNTAINS.  
LOVELY OVER THE MOUNTAINS.

MATRASSES AND BEDDING.  
MATRASSES AND BEDDING.

MRS. C. BOIRAU.  
MRS. C. BOIRAU.

NEW YORK AND HARLEM RAILROAD.  
NEW YORK AND HARLEM RAILROAD.

OLD LEAD AND LEAD BOUGHS.  
OLD LEAD AND LEAD BOUGHS.

SCRAMEN WHO WERE IN THE "CONSTITUTION".  
SCRAMEN WHO WERE IN THE "CONSTITUTION".

STARK'S CHEMICAL.  
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COAL.  
\$4.75 BEST QUALITY RED ASH.  
\$4.75 BEST QUALITY RED ASH.

\$4.25 PER TON—COAL, RED ASH.  
\$4.25 PER TON—COAL, RED ASH.

\$4.75—COAL—PHEMORS WHISKY.  
\$4.75—COAL—PHEMORS WHISKY.

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